

What is claimed is:

24. A method for the cleaning of an injection mold comprising the steps of:
configuring the operating controls of a dry ice blasting system to produce a cleaner flow comprising dry ice granules entrained in a gas with the dry ice granules ranging in size from approximately 0.005 to 0.040 inches in diameter, at a gas-to-dry ice mass ratio ranging from approximately 2.0 to 3.5, and at a gas flow rate ranging from approximately 3 to 50 SCFM; and positioning a nozzle tip of a hand tool a distance from a surface to be cleaned;
triggering the operation of the blasting system to initiate the cleaner flow.
25. The method of cleaning an injection mold according to Claim 24, wherein, the nozzle tip of the hand tool is positioned at a distance ranging from 0.5 and 1.5 inches from the preform surface to be cleaned.
26. The method of cleaning an injection mold according to Claim 25, further comprising the steps of opening the injection mold, and positioning a mold ejection mechanism to expose the preform surface to be cleaned.
27. The method of cleaning an injection mold according to Claim 26, wherein, in the step of configuring the operating controls, the gas to dry ice ratio is kept at approximately 3.0 for cleaning a vent of the preform.
28. The method of cleaning an injection mold according to Claim 27, wherein, in the step of configuring the operating controls, the granule size is kept at approximately 0.020 inches in diameter for cleaning a vent of the preform.
29. The method of cleaning an injection mold according to Claim 28, wherein, in the step of configuring the operating

controls, the gas flow rate is kept at approximately 25 SCFM for cleaning the vent of the preform mold.

30. The method of cleaning an injection mold according to Claim 29, wherein, in the step of positioning a nozzle tip of a hand tool, the position of the nozzle tip is kept approximately 1.0 inch from the vent of the preform mold.